



PTO/SB/08A/B (09-06)

Approved for use through 03/31/2007. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO				Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Application Number	10/580,127-Conf. #7424
				Filing Date	May 19, 2006
				First Named Inventor	Shigeo Hirose
				Art Unit	3617
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	12088/044001

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
	AA*	US-3,498,684	03-03-1970	A. D. Hallaman	
	AB*	US-3,120,409	02-04-1964	C. T. Beall	
	AC*	US-20050116540-A1	06-02-2005	Katoh et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	BA	GB-2229410 A	09-26-1990	Fukuyama Rubber Ind		
	BB	FR-1013382	07-28-1952	Paul-Pierre-Henri Plante		
	BC	DE-3435486 A1	04-18-1985	Pirelli		
	BD	GB-2138534 A	10-24-1984	Pirelli		
	BE	EP-1211169 A2	06-05-2002	Ohtsu Tire & Rubber Co Ltd		
	BF	JP-2003-327176	11-19-2003	Sumitomo Rubber Ind		✓
	BG	WO-03/078239	09-25-2003	Fukuyama Rubber Ind et al.		

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. * CITE NO.: Those application(s) which are marked with an single asterisk (*) next to the Cite No. are not supplied (under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(iii)) because that application was filed after June 30, 2003 or is available in the IFW. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²	
	CA	Supplementary European Search Report issued in EP Application No. 04818947 dated February 6, 2007 (3 pages)		
	CB	Notification of Examiner's Reasons of Rejection issued in corresponding Japanese Patent Application No. 2005-515640; Dated 02/13/2007; 3 pages (non-English)		
	CC	English translation of Notification of Examiner's Reasons of Rejection issued in corresponding Japanese Patent Application No. 2005-515640; Dated 02/13/2007; 4 pages		

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature	/Jason Bellinger/	Date Considered	05/23/2008
--------------------	-------------------	-----------------	------------

ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /J.R.B./